

IFSH and ZNF present the interdisciplinary workshop “Ways out of violence”

On February 11th 2011 the Institute of Peace Research and Security Policy (IFSH) and the Carl Friedrich von Weizsäcker - Centre for Science and Peace Research (ZNF) invited about 120 peace and conflict researchers. Under the motto “Ways out of violence” they discussed planned topics and current projects regarding peace and conflict. The meanwhile well networked community of peace and conflict researchers from the University of Hamburg including the ZNF discussed with researchers of the IFSH and the GIGA in five



Martin B. Kalinowski, ZNF (middle), Götz Neuneck (left) and other workshop participants in working group “Arms control” (photo: TK)

topic-related work groups about “Violent conflict in the context of climate change and natural resources”, “Arms control and disarmament”, “Post conflict peace building” and “Power and Transformation” as well as “Mediation and Negotiation” about ap-

proaches, theories and new results. The aim of “Ways out of violence”, apart from the common reflection of individual projects, is especially to explore fertile interdisciplinary synergies. The participants were mainly political scientists and physicists, but there were also reports from psychologists, sociologists, physicians, (bio-) chemists and geo-scientists.

Dealing with interdisciplinarity is complex and requires experience. “It is an enormous feat of strength to put interdisciplinarity in action”, says psychologist Alexander Redlich after moderating the working group “Mediation and Negotiation”. “It is essential to work in small groups with strongly focused topics to remain able to really comprehend each other.” This special challenge was managed well by the participants. “It is impressive how many projects and how much potential this community creates”, says Harald Schlüter from the Department of Research and Academic Funding of the University of Hamburg after the work groups’ results have been summarized in the plenary.

Interdisciplinary research in peace and conflict is currently booming in Hamburg. Members of the group

have been cooperating in research and teaching for several years. Special mention deserves the research group CliSec (part of the cluster of excellence CliSAP) and the interdisciplinary work group “Monitoring and Verification of International Treaties”. One of the driving forces in interdisciplinary cooperation is also the conjoint teaching: Members of all the six faculties of the university offer their lectures under the roof of the ZNF. Especially the lecture series “Peacebuilding – Foundations, concepts and case studies” – which is open to all students – and the “Carl Friedrich von Weizsäcker peace lecture” are highly frequented. Hartwig Spitzer and Ulrike Borchardt have been asking for active participation: “Everybody is invited to share ideas and topics in the upcoming lectures”.

The results of the second workshop range from the opportunity to directly address a thematically huge variety of cooperation-requests to fixed arrangements about the intense collaboration for several ongoing projects (GIGA/CORE). Multiple major project ideas were presented during the course of the workshop, especially in the working group “Arms control and disarmament”. Götz Neuneck introduced a three-year program with the working title “Globalizing Zero”; Iris Hunger proposed the formation of a project cooperation group with the topic “Civil-society monitoring”.

For most projects the realization is yet uncertain, at the moment their creators are still trying to secure financing. “If the university will be allowed to submit a full proposal in the federal excellence initiative, things are going to look better“, says Michael Brzoska. “For individual DFG-proposals postdocs can request consulting from the department ‘Promotion of research and science’”, explains Andreas Petersen. Parallel to respectively “huge solutions” Hamburg offers promotional

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instruments only for cooperative projects.

The organizers regard this workshop as a central instrument of interdisciplinary cooperation within the university but also with additional Hamburg institutions. After the final discussion Martin Kalinkowski, director of ZNF, resumes: “We need this workshop for networking. Today we realized once again how much potential exists in this area – and how huge the need for support really is.”

In spring 2010, the interdisciplinary group “Peace and conflict research in Hamburg” met the first time for the workshop “Ways out of violence”. Meanwhile, there is a common web presence on the website of the ZNF. There a database offers the possibility to specifically search for information on the Hamburg-based protagonists of peace and conflict research. In the future the web presence will also include announcements and presentations of common projects. (Text by Linda Laddach, ZNF)

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New IFSH study on Russia’s tactical nuclear weapons

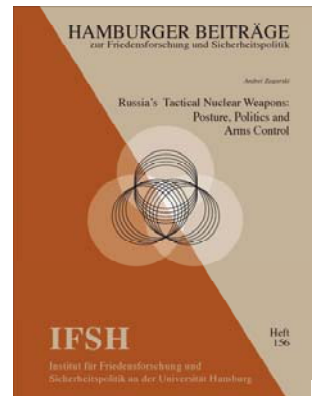
The IFSH has published a new study on “Russia’s Tactical Nuclear Weapons: Posture, Politics and Arms Control”. The study’s author, Andrei Zagorski, is Professor at the Moscow State Institute of International Relations (MGIMO). Zagorski concludes that Russia possesses about 2,000 tactical nuclear weapons, many of which are “available for early deployment”. He points out that tactical nuclear weapons are “more vulnerable to theft or the risk of unauthorized use” than strategic nuclear weapons. The ratification of the New START treaty has “raised hopes that next steps towards nuclear disarmament would entail limitations and reductions of tactical nuclear weapons,” but the study finds that since the end of the Cold War Russia is increasingly relying on nuclear weapons in order to compensate for its conventional inferiority vis-à-vis advanced military powers, particularly the United States. The Russian defense establishment “prefers to keep all options for the maintenance and the development of Russian nuclear capabilities open”, Zagorski argues.



UN-Seminar panel in Genf (left): Andrej Zagorski, Kerstin Vignard (UNI-DIR Genf), Götz Neuneck, Pal Dunay (Geneva Center for Security Policy)

Andrei Zagorski presented his study on February 21st on a seminar in Berlin. At the same event, IFAR direc-

tor Götz Neuneck also presented the results of a study on missile defense in Europe. More than 30 participants from government, Bundestag, embassies, research institutes and media discussed with the two authors options to advance arms control in Europe. On February 22nd Zagorski and Neuneck discussed their findings with diplomats and experts during a seminar organized by the United Nations Institute for Disarmament Research and IFSH at the European United Nations headquarters in Geneva. The study "Russia’s Tactical Nuclear Weapons: Posture, Politics and Arms Control" can be downloaded at



<http://www.ifsh.de/pdf/publikationen/hb/hb156.pdf>.

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Small Players in a Great Game: The Afghanistan Policies of the Central Asian States

A New CORE Pilot Study

A new pilot study funded by the German Foundation for Peace Research addresses the hardly explored question of which policies regarding Afghanistan the five Central Asian states have been pursuing. Well known is that the Central Asian states are extremely concerned about the situation in Afghanistan and the impact of developments there on their own countries. However, there is little if any research at all on the question of whether the Central Asian states consciously aim at stabilizing the situation in Afghanistan through their own initiatives in order to prevent a spill-over of the conflict there to their own countries. This is all the more surprising, since Afghanistan and the Central Asian states are interlinked in many ways.



Both territories are linked by language and ethnicity, mainly through ethnic Tajiks and Uzbeks living in Northern Afghanistan. Three Central Asian states –

Tajikistan, Turkmenistan and Uzbekistan – share a 2,100 kilometer border with Afghanistan. All Central Asian states are exposed to a number of transnational threats originating from Afghanistan, primarily the ‘export’ of violent extremism with the ultimate goal of creating an Islamic fundamentalist state, but also drug trafficking and other threats. Particularly Tajikistan and Uzbekistan show very specific conflict-related links to Afghanistan regarding the Islamic Movement of Uzbekistan and the Tajik civil war (1992-1997). Beyond that the war in Afghanistan limits the chances of certain Central Asian states for economic activities. Finally, the semi-authoritarian and at the same time weak Central Asian states themselves represent a considerable risk of destabilization, which, in a worst-case scenario, could contribute to the conflict in Afghanistan. Therefore this kind of research is essential for developing a stabilization strategy for Afghanistan after the forthcoming withdrawal of the coalition forces.

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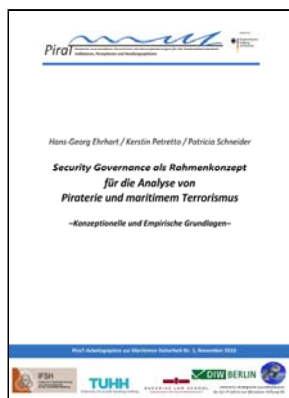
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Publications

PiraT – Working Paper No. 1 published

“*Security Governance as Conceptual Framework for Analyzing Piracy and maritime Terrorism. Conceptual and Empirical Foundations.*” (in German).

Assessing and tackling the risk of pirates and terrorists for maritime trade is the objective of the research project PiraT. The interdisciplinary project combines political, legal, economical and technical perspectives for the development of a comprehensive approach towards maritime violence.



The working paper written by Hans-Georg Ehrhart, Kerstin Petretto and Patricia Schneider aims at providing first empirical insights into the subject matter and offers a conceptual outline for the venture. It is to be understood as work-in-progress

being revised and adapted in the course of the project.

As an effective response incorporates state and non-state actors from all over the globe, research will aim at collecting and analyzing their diverse perceptions of the threat as well as their motivations and capacities to get involved in securing international sea routes. The concept of Security Governance serves as a conceptual framework for the analysis. It stems from the assumption that due to the growing in capacity of the state to

ensure its citizens’ safety, a global risk society has emerged and new forms of non-hierarchical cooperation between state and non-state actors have become mandatory. In this respect, Security Governance has been developed to shed light on multidimensional, non-hierarchical forms of international coordination. By providing a tool of analysis of characteristics, driving forces, types, dimensions and steering mechanisms of such international coordination the concept aims at raising awareness of problem handling in the contemporary global risk society.

Furthermore, the paper delivers insight into the phenomena of both piracy and maritime terrorism and expounds the problem of defining these two phenomena. An overview of responses to maritime violence around the globe serves as a foundation for a subsequent conceptual discussion in which the five suggested building blocks of the concept of “Security Governance” are applied to the context of maritime security. The given outline of the risk model of PiraT will, in the further course of the project, allow an analysis of the insecure situation and facilitate the development of coordinated measures to strengthen maritime trade security.

The paper concludes firstly that maritime violence needs enhanced coordinated and differentiated strategies of state and non-state actors alike. This is particularly important for strategies aiming at tackling maritime violence at its root. Their elaboration and implementation will however demand a high degree of willingness to compromise by all actors concerned. Secondly, the authors come to the conclusion that the first test of the concept of “Security Governance” has proved it to be a promising conceptual framework for analyzing maritime violence. Moreover the application and discussion of its various components have revealed multiple approaches for the design and refinement of the concept.

Download at: <http://www.maritimesecurity.eu/index.php?workingpapers>

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Security and Peace 4/2010: Afghanistan – The International Community at a Crossroads?

After more than nine years of engagement in Afghanistan since 9/11, the international community is at a crossroads. Can new concepts of counterinsurgency (COIN) and of a comprehensive approach pave the way out of the risk of failure of Western intervention? Or is the end of militarily backed liberal democracy promotion and state-building in sight? These two ques-

tions form the analytical framework of this special issue of S+F. Hans-Georg Ehrhart and Roland Kästner analyse the concept of COIN and evaluate its implementation in Afghanistan using immanent criteria. Richard Roy deals with the Canadian learning process and a shift towards a population-centric approach. Philipp Münch explores the relevance of the concept for and its implementation by the German Armed Forces. Citha D. Maass expounds the problem of the relationship between counterinsurgency and peace-building from the perspective of non-governmental organisations. Robert Lindner addresses the difficult situation of non-state aid organisations facing a counterinsurgency environment. Eva Gross scrutinises the activities of the EU in the realm of the security sector reform by looking at the case of the EU police mission EUPOL Afghanistan and its relation to the NATO training mission. Mark Sedra analyses the security sector reform in Afghanistan. Sven Gareis examines the pretension and the practice of networked security from a German point of view. Christian Wagner analyses Pakistan's politico-strategic orientation between India and Afghanistan. Julian Schofield explores Pakistan's policy of blockade against stronger Afghan Indian trade relations as central impediment for the socio-economic development of Afghanistan.

The ten contributions to this issue give a rather sceptical view of the situation in Afghanistan. In addition, they emphasize that there is not only a lot of research on this country and the region but also about fashionable concepts such as counterinsurgency, security sector reform, comprehensive approach, and stabilisation of fragile states. Hence, the international community seems to be at a crossroads not only in Afghanistan. Guest Editor is Hans-Georg Ehrhart (IFSH/ZEUS).

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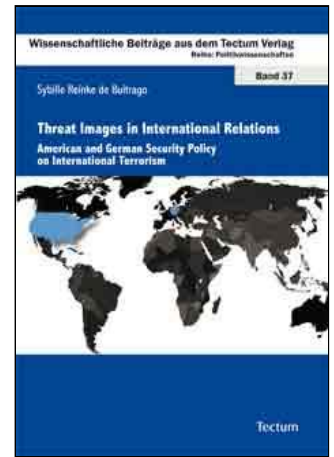
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Sybille Reinke de Buitrago:
Threat Images in International Relations.
American and German Security Policy on
International Terrorism

What has changed since the terrorist attacks of 9/11? Certainly our view of threats has – what and whom we perceive as threatening. But threat perceptions and threat images, especially enemy images, also frame our interpretation of events and issues and thereby restrict policy choices seemingly available to us. The analysis of threat perceptions in their various forms is therefore an important avenue, not only for our understanding of how policy is shaped by them, but also for offering ways to improve policy. With this book Sybille Reinke de Buitrago aims to increase the understanding of cur-

rent threat perceptions and enemy images in American and German security policy on international terrorism.

Sybille Reinke de Buitrago: Threat Images in International Relations. American and German Security Policy on International Terrorism, scientific articles from Tectum Verlag: Politikwissenschaften, Volume 37.

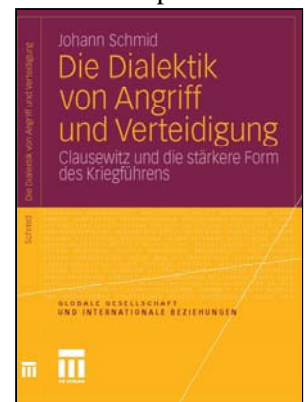


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Johann Schmid:
Dialectics of Offence and Defence –
Clausewitz and the "Stronger Form" of Warfare

The dialectic relationship of offence and defence (The dialectics of offence and defence) is subject to political-military thinkers at all times and represents one of the decisive questions concerning war and conflict. The following book concentrates on the relative strength of the two main forms of warfare: offence and defence. Central subject of the study is the claim of the Prussian general and philosopher of war, Carl von Clausewitz: "Defence as such is the stronger form of warfare." Defence makes victory easier to achieve and requires less forces as compared to offense. It thus represents a most decisive factor concerning the outcome of war. This idea stands in contrast to the convictions of important authorities in history, particularly to those of the contemporaries of the Prussian philosopher. At the same time, Clausewitz' idea about the defence being the stronger form of warfare stands in contrast to recurring phenomena in the reality of warfare. A comprehensive analysis of Clausewitz' background, method and argumentation shows that none of his arguments is valid.



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